IN THE CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) A method in a data processing system for caching content, the method comprising:

receiving a plurality of data packets containing content and control information;

caching the content and control information of each data packet;

responsive to a request from a requestor for the particular content associated with a specified one of the plurality of data packets, determining whether a particular indicator is present with the particular content; [[and]]

~~responsive to a determination that the particular indicator is present,~~ sending the particular content to the requestor without performing a validity check [[.]], whenever the particular indicator is present with the particular content; and

performing a validity check before sending the particular content to the requestor, only if the particular indicator is absent from the particular content.

PAGE 4/16 * RCVD AT 4/15/2005 2:24:35 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/3 * DNIS:8729306 * CSID:9723857766 * DURATION (mm-ss):04-56

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the indicator identifies the content as being content distribution capable.

10. (Original) The method of claim 8 further comprising: responsive to a determination that the particular indicator is absent, performing the validity check using the control information.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein ~~the content is one of a Web page, an audio file, a text file, a program, or a video file.~~ said plurality of data packets are received at a node, and the particular indicator is present with the particular content only if the particular content is subscribed to at said node.

12. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the control information follows a hypertext transfer protocol.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) A data processing system comprising:

a bus system;

a communications unit connected to the bus system;

a memory connected to the bus system, wherein the memory includes a set of instructions; and

a processing unit connected to the bus system, wherein the processing unit executes the set of instructions to receive a data packet containing content and control information; cache the content and control information; determine whether a particular indicator is present in response to a request from a requestor for the content; and send the content to the requestor without performing a validity check whenever it is determined ~~in response to a determination~~ that the particular indicator is present; and perform a validity

PAGE 5/16 * RCVD AT 4/15/2005 2:24:35 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/3 * DNIS:8729306 * CSID:9723857766 * DURATION (mm-ss):04-56

check before sending the content to the requestor, only if it is determined that the particular indicator is absent from the content.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) The data processing system of claim 15 ~~17~~, wherein the content is a Web page.

19. (Currently Amended) The data processing system of claim 15 ~~17~~, further comprising:

performing means, responsive to an absence of an enablement for content distribution, for performing a validity check on the content in response to a request for the content.

20. (Currently Amended) The data processing system of claim 15 ~~17~~, wherein the data processing system is one of a cache for Web content or a proxy server.

21. (Currently Amended) The data processing system of claim 15 ~~17~~, wherein an indicator in the packet is used for determining whether the content is enabled for content distribution.

22. (Currently Amended) The data processing system of claim 15 ~~17~~, wherein the indicator is located in a header of the packet.

23. (Currently Amended) The data processing system of claim 15 ~~17~~, wherein the packet is transmitted using a hypertext transfer protocol.

24. (Currently Amended) A data processing system for caching content, the data processing system comprising:

PAGE 6/16 * RCVD AT 4/15/2005 2:24:35 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/3 * DNIS:8729306 * CSID:9723857766 * DURATION (mm-ss):04-56

receiving means for receiving a data packet containing content and control information;

caching means for caching the content and control information;

determining means, responsive to a request from a requestor for the content, for determining whether a particular indicator is present; ~~and~~

sending means, responsive to [[a]] each determination that the particular indicator is present, for sending the content to the requestor without performing a validity check[[.]]; and

validity checking means, responsive only to a determination that the particular indicator is not present, for performing a validity check before sending the content to the requestor.

25. (Original) The data processing system of claim 24, wherein the indicator identifies the content as being content distribution capable.

26. (Original) The data processing system of claim 24 further comprising:

performing means, responsive to a determination that the particular indicator is absent, for performing the validity check using the control information.

27. (Original) The data processing system of claim 24, wherein the content is one of a Web page, an audio file, a text file, a program, or a video file.

28. (Original) The data processing system of claim 24, wherein the control information follows a hypertext transfer protocol.

29. (Canceled)

30. (Canceled)

31. (Currently Amended) A computer program product in a data processing system for caching content, the computer program product comprising:

PAGE 7/16 * RCVD AT 4/15/2005 2:24:35 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/3 * DNIS:8729306 * CSID:9723857766 * DURATION (mm-ss):04-56

first instructions for receiving a data packet containing content and control information;

second instructions for caching the content and control information;

third instructions, responsive to a request from a requestor for the content, for determining whether a particular indicator is present; ~~and~~

fourth instructions, responsive ~~to a determination~~ whenever it is determined that the particular indicator is present, for sending the content to the requestor without performing a validity check[[.]]; and

fifth instructions, responsive to a determination that the particular indicator is not present for performing a validity check before sending the content to the requestor.

32. (Canceled)

PAGE 8/16 * RCVD AT 4/15/2005 2:24:35 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/3 * DNIS:8729306 * CSID:9723857766 * DURATION (mm-ss):04-56